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efforts of the friends of Peace to establish concord on the earth, and to banish wars and divisions. This is a grand object; an object essentially Christian. We cannot yet attain it; but there is a strong tendency towards its attainment. These public manifestations, expressed by these Congresses, prepare and form opinion, which is always the queen of the world. When public opinion shall be decidedly pronounced against violence and brute force to terminate the differences which arise among nations, their rulers will be obliged to consider among themselves what to do, and wars will become more and more rare.

May God supremely bless our common efforts, and incline the hearts of the people towards gentleness and love, which are, indeed, at the foundation of all religion.

HORACE SAY. — You know with what ardor of sentiment I partake all your convictions, and associate myself with all your ideas on this subject. The more the people are enlightened, the more they comprehend political economy, the more they will learn to know the true nature of things, and the more they will be led cheerfully to obey the will of God in loving one another. We have yet much to do, and our pacific mission is far from being terminated; for the governments and the peoples appear, until now, quite sunk in the old ruts.

Tell our friends, I pray you, the mortification I feel at not finding myself among them; and receive, my dear and honorable friend, the fresh assurances of my entire devotedness.

A PEACE EMBASSY.

DR. BODENSTEDT, on behalf of the Schleswig-Holsteiners, laid before the Peace Congress at Frankfort near the close of its sessions, a request for its mediation to terminate the war, and settle the dispute, between them and Denmark. The rules of the Congress, and the *ex parte* nature of the request, forbade even a formal presentation of the subject; but three prominent members of the Congress, (Joseph Sturge, Elihu Burritt, and Frederick Wheeler,) went on their own responsibility to visit both the contending parties, in the hope of bringing about an amicable adjustment of the difficulties which have threatened even to disturb the general peace of Europe. From Hamburgh, 25th Sept., they addressed to the members of the late Peace Congress, a report of their mission, which we quote almost entire as follows: —

“Disclaiming all intention of entering on the merits of the case, we ventured, solely on our own responsibility, to proceed to the theatre of the contest, for the purpose of entreating the contending parties to refer the whole question at issue to the decision of enlightened and impartial arbitrators, and thus to spare themselves the further infliction of the calamities and horrors of a war which could never satisfactorily settle the matter in dispute, and which is contemplated with pain and sorrow by the friends of religion and humanity throughout the world.

In order to prevent any misapprehension in regard to the object of our voluntary mission, we embodied the views expressed above in a written statement,

intended to be presented in the first place to the authorities of Schleswig-Holstein. We arrived at Kiel in the evening of the 2d of September, and the next day waited upon the President of the Representative Assembly and several members of that body, upon the Burgomaster, persons connected with the University, and other influential individuals representing different classes of the community, and explained to them the objects of our visit. Although a fixed determination was manifest to resist force by force to the last extremity, yet, without a single exception, they expressed their willingness to leave the whole question at issue to impartial arbitration.

On the following day we proceeded to Rendsburg, the principal fortress in Holstein, and then the seat of the Schleswig-Holstein Government, and waited upon the Stadtholders, and other members of the Government. They too received us with great courtesy, and listened with serious attention to our written statement, and to the considerations and arguments which we urged in favor of arbitration, as an equitable and practicable mode of settling the existing difficulty. They replied that it was quite impossible for the Government of the Duchies to make any proposition, and that we must distinctly understand, that we had no mission from them to the Danish Government. But they added, that they should be willing to refer the claims of the Duchies to the decision of enlightened and impartial arbitrators, provided Denmark would also submit its claims to the same tribunal, reserving for eventual arrangement the appointment, composition, and jurisdiction of the Court. We reduced this reply to writing, and afterwards submitted it for their examination, when they assented to its accuracy.

Having obtained this declaration from the Government of the Duchies, we left the next morning for Copenhagen, where we arrived on the 10th instant. We readily obtained separate interviews with the Prime Minister, and with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who received us with great cordiality and kindness. We presented to them a written statement of the object of our mission, and of what had transpired at Rendsburg. We invited their special attention to the Treaty of Alliance between Denmark and the Duchies, bearing date 1533, renewed in 1623, and confirmed at Travendahl in 1700, by which 'the contracting parties bound themselves mutually to assist each other; and, with respect to any differences that might arise between them, they agreed to adjust them, *not* by means of arms, but by means of councillors constituted as arbitrators on the part of each, and disengaged from their oath of allegiance.'

'We come as private individuals,' we said, 'invested with no political authority; but we know that we represent the convictions and sympathies of millions, both on this and the other side of the Atlantic; and we entreat the Danish Government, in the name of our common Christianity, to arrest the further slaughter of those to whom God has united them, not only by the ties of the universal brotherhood of man, but also by close affinity and neighborhood, and whom they even consider as their own countrymen. We earnestly appeal to them to put an end to this unnatural and deplorable war, and to accept a mode of settlement which shall recognise and establish the just rights of parties, and heal the breach which the sword has made between them.'

Both the Ministers expressed their desire to effect a satisfactory and pacific arrangement. They said they were sensible of the evils of war, and were anxious to bring it to a speedy termination by an amicable mode of adjustment. At our last interview with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, he said substantially, that if the Government of the Duchies would authorize a plan or basis of arbitration, the Danish Government would take it into immediate consideration. We subsequently received the declaration, that they accepted the principle of arbitration to the same extent that it was accepted by the Schleswig-Holstein Government at Rendsburg.

Having received this reply, we resorted to Kiel, to communicate it to the Government of the Duchies, and to endeavor to induce a direct negotiation on

the composition, appointment, and jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration. On the 23d and 24th inst., we met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who authorized a plan of arbitration prescribed by the treaty between the two countries to which we have referred. He also appointed a gentleman to meet any one whom the Danish Government should be willing to commission for the purpose of agreeing upon the measures requisite to carry this plan into effect. Steps have been taken to bring these parties together as early as possible; and one of our number (Elihu Burritt) will remain at Hamburgh for a few weeks, with a view of doing all in his power to facilitate and expedite this preliminary stage of negotiation.

There may yet be difficulties in the way of a final and satisfactory settlement between the contending parties; but we have great confidence that those with whom it now rests, will be able to bring it to a speedy and successful conclusion. Indeed, it has filled us with astonishment as well as sorrow, that this unnatural war, in which brother is arrayed against brother, and even father against son, should ever have been declared, or have continued so long, with men at the head of both Governments, who appear to feel strongly those obligations of humanity, and of the religion of Christ, which impose upon them the solemn duty to settle the difficulty by reason and justice, and not by an appeal to brute force. If such an arrangement be not now effected, we believe that it will be mainly attributable to the interference of the great European Powers, (contrary to the wish of one of the contending parties,) as indicated in the London Protocol of the 2d of August — a document which has excited strong dissatisfaction in the minds of the inhabitants of the Duchies, and in which millions in other portions of Europe largely participate.

If the steps now in progress shall result in a pacific solution of this aggravated difficulty, we hope that the friends of peace will be encouraged to labor, with renewed zeal and activity, to substitute, in every case of international controversy, the arbitration of reason, justice, and humanity, for the cruel and barbarous decision of the sword."

This affair, as an episode or appendix to the Frankfort Congress, is quite significant and auspicious. It shows the great respect felt for that Congress by the European public. Those three peace-makers, though self-moved in their generous mission, went under the virtual sanction of the Congress, and carried with them the full force of its moral influence. Without some such prestige, no three individuals in Europe could, in their private capacity alone, have accomplished what they did; and thus the remarkable success of their unique but most laudable mission, is an incidental proof of the success of the demonstration at Frankfort.

This report, moreover, discloses the latent reluctance of belligerents themselves to continue the work of mutual butchery, and their readiness, if the way can be fairly opened, to accept rational, equitable methods of adjustment in place of the sword. It seems that both the parties in this case wish to stop the further effusion of blood, and acknowledge their obligation to do so.

Why, then, do they both keep their grasp still on the sword? We cannot know, or presume to guess, all the reasons; but doubtless false notions of honor have a great deal of influence in continuing this senseless and suicidal contest. They fight on, not because they wish it, but because they suppose they cannot help it; a result not so much of the war-spirit, as of war-delusions, and the tyranny of custom.

We see, also, that peace requires something more than the best treaties — a public opinion and national habits to carry them into effect. Without such

opinion and habits, all treaties will become as worthless as waste paper, like those old treaties between Denmark and the Duchies; and hence there is now, and ever must be to the end of time, need of efforts to educate the mass of every people aright on this subject. This educational process is, under God, the chief basis of hope for the world's permanent peace.

Still the case before us shows how much might be done by rulers, if rightly disposed, to prevent war, and insure uninterrupted peace, even in the present degenerate and generally rotten state of public feeling with respect to war as the ultimate arbiter of national disputes. If three men — two Quakers, and a Yankee blacksmith — accomplished so much, what might princes and premiers do with equal warmth of zeal, and energy of purpose.



HOME AFFAIRS.

PETITIONS TO CONGRESS.—The prospect of inducing our rulers to take some decisive steps in favor of substitutes for war, is now more favorable than ever before; and our Society have already petitioned the Executive on the subject, and will do the same with both Houses of Congress at the opening of their session. We deem it very important that our own petitions be sustained by others from all parts of the land; and we hope our friends, at least in every place where a single copy of the Advocate is taken, will make sure of forwarding a petition as early as the first week in December. Let the reader of these lines consider himself charged with the business; and making two copies of the form below, one for the Senate, and the other for the House, let him at once procure as many signatures as he can, each person signing both petitions, and forward them to Washington, the one for the House to the Representative from his own district, and that for the Senate to one of the Senators from his State, or to some person in each House known to be interested in the subject, with a note requesting his prompt and special attention to the subject.

To the Senate, (or House of Reps.) of the United States :

The undersigned, legal voters, (or citizens or inhabitants) of ———, in the State of ———, deploring the manifold evils of war, and believing it possible to supersede its alleged necessity, as an Arbiter of Justice among Nations, by the timely adoption of wise and feasible substitutes, respectfully request your honorable body to take such action as you may deem best in favor of Stipulated Arbitration, or a Congress of Nations, for the accomplishment of this most desirable end.

ANNUAL EFFORTS.—Our Society, seconded by ecclesiastical bodies of almost every name in the land, proposed, many years ago, a practical recognition of the claims of our cause upon the Christian community by having on or near the 25th December, every pastor preach on the subject a set discourse, in every church, (though several may sometimes unite in the service,) observe the annual Concert of Prayer for Peace, and an opportu-